

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUBLIN 00191 291754Z

70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6409

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AMCONSUL BELFAST

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DUBLIN 191

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, EI

SUBJECT: HUNGER STRIKES IN NEWS AGAIN

SIXTEEN PROVISIONAL IRA PRISONERS HAVE BEEN ON HUNGER STRIKE IN
REPUBLIC'S PORTLAOISE JAIL FOR VARIABLE PERIODS OF TIME. FIVE
ARE NOW SAID TO BE IN SERIOUS CONDITION. STRIKERS HAVE MADE A
NUMBER OF DEMANDS FOR BETTER JAIL CONDITIONS. GOI HAS REFUSED
TO YIELD. FROM ALL APPEARANCES, PROVOS ARE LOOKING FOR EXCUSES TO
PUT PRESSURE ON GOI. SOME PROVO SPOKESMEN HAVE ATTEMPTED TO
LINK STRIKERS' DEMANDS WITH NI TRUCE TALKS. THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN
THE USUAL VEILED THREATS OF VIOLENCE IN REPUBLIC IF STRIKERS DIE.
JUDGING FROM PAST PERFORMANCE BOTH OF THIS GOVERNMENT AND ITS
PREDECESSOR, PM COSGRAVE IS NOT LIKELY TO DEPART FROM TRADITIONAL
POLICY OF REFUSAL TO NEGOTIATE WITH IRA. DEATH OF
A HUNGER-STRIKER ALWAYS CAUSES SOME PUBLIC EMOTION, BUT GOI IS
PRESENTLY IN GOOD POSITION TO RIDE IT OUT.
MOORE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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